

## Our Need for faith

The three friends met as agreed in the hostel restaurant, and after going through the menu, Michael and Yousef decided on what they wanted to order, while Rajiv contemplated over the :list a little longer, and then said

Rajiv: I noticed that most restaurants don't bother to offer full vegetarian meals, but anyway, it seems I can order a suitable .meal here

.Michael: So you are a vegetarian then

Rajiv: Yes, approximately 40% of India's population are .vegetarian

Yousef: But is it for religious or health reasons

Rajiv: Actually, in the Hindu religion, which I used to follow, eating beef is completely forbidden, and in India being a vegetarian is very common among the adherents of Hinduism, despite their dwindling numbers now because that system is so austere. As for me, I prefer vegetarian food for health and .environmental reasons

.Yousef (signaling the waiter): Please, we'd like to order

Michael: So Rajiv, you left your religion for which religion, then

Rajiv: Not for anything, actually. My studies in Germany have widened my scope and given me the freedom to view Hinduism with a critical, doubtful eye. I wasn't convinced of Christianity .and so I am closer to atheism